

This is a crucial point in the struggle to achieve full equality for women under the law. Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment must be completed by the required number of states by March 1979. The successes of the past were dearly bought, and this final effort will not be easy. Achievement of this goal is essential in order to secure meaningful equality for all our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim August 26, 1977, as Women's Equality Day and do hereby call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activity. I further urge all our people to dedicate themselves anew to the goal of achieving equal rights for women under the law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

EDITORIAL NOTE: The President's remarks of Aug. 26, 1977, on signing Proclamation 4515, are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 13, p. 1256).

Proclamation 4516

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August 29, 1977

### National Hispanic Heritage Week, 1977

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### A Proclamation

The Hispanic heritage of over sixteen million Americans, representing a broad diversity of cultures, has enriched our Nation by contributing to the advancement of art and science and by affirming the importance of family bonds and community spirit.

Today, Americans have come to recognize the important role of the Hispanic community both in the life and work of the United States and in our efforts to achieve understanding, mutual respect and common purpose with the Spanish-speaking nations of this hemisphere.

In recognition of our Hispanic heritage, the Congress, by joint resolution approved September 17, 1968 (36 U.S.C. 169f), has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the week including September 15 and 16 as National Hispanic Heritage Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning September 11, 1977, as National Hispanic Heritage Week and call upon the people of the United States, especially the educational community, to observe it with appropriate ceremonies and activities; to reflect on the influence of Hispanic culture in our land; and to encourage the full participation of Hispanic Americans in every phase of American life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord Nineteen hundred seventy-seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4517

August 29, 1977

Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, 1977

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

On July 4, 1976, we joyfully celebrated the 200th anniversary of our Nation's independence. Now, on September 17, 1977, we commemorate the 190th anniversary of a quieter but equally momentous event: the signing of the Constitution of the United States, at Independence Hall, Philadelphia.

USC prec. title 1.

The Constitution audaciously proposed a new plan of government—a government through which the new Nation's people could, in the words of the Preamble, “form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity . . .”

With amendments, notably the Bill of Rights, that Constitution has endured these 190 years as the supreme law of our land. We are its inheritors—the “posterity” whose liberty the Founding Fathers wished to secure—and it is fitting for us to mark the anniversary of what they did.

By a joint resolution of February 29, 1952 (36 U.S.C. 153), Congress designated September 17 as Citizenship Day, in commemoration of the formation and signing of the Constitution and in recognition of all who, by coming of age or by naturalization have attained the full status of citizenship, and authorized the President to issue annually a proclamation calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag on all Government buildings on that day. By a joint resolution of August 2, 1956 (36 U.S.C. 159), the Congress authorized the President to designate the period beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as Constitution Week and to issue a proclamation calling for the observance of that week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon appropriate Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on Citizenship Day, September 17, 1977, the 190th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. I urge Federal, State and local officials, as well as leaders of civic, educational and religious organizations to conduct related ceremonies and programs on that day.

I also designate as Constitution Week the period beginning September 17 and ending September 23, 1977, and urge all Americans to observe that week with ceremonies and activities in their schools, churches and in other suitable places in order to